



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Public Library

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Exhibition of Works by Artist Barbara Sexton Transforms Space into Eerily Futuristic Environment

"On and Off" will be on display from Dec. 3 through Jan. 28

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego Public Library will present an exhibition of work by San Diego artist Barbara Sexton, "On and Off," from Dec. 3, 2006, through Jan. 28, 2007, at the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library. The exhibition is being coordinated under the auspices of the Library's Visual Arts Program.

An opening reception will be held Sunday, Dec. 10 from 1 to 4 p.m. Also, a special "Artist's Talk," where Sexton will discuss her work, will be held Saturday, Jan. 13, 2007, at 1 p.m. Both events and the exhibition are free and open to the public.

The conceptual sophistication, graphic power and technical perfection of Sexton's art have earned her a place in the top echelon of San Diego's artists. For "On and Off," which was conceived as a site specific installation for the library gallery, Sexton created wall-sized fabric-like panels imprinted edge to edge with digitally manipulated, photo-based imagery. Several of these measure 21 feet long by 8 feet high, in effect, transforming the exhibition space into an eerily futuristic environment that surrounds and immerses the viewer. "On and Off" explores a number of thought-provoking issues related to science and human interaction, including the linkage between technology and psychology, and rational thought and emotion.

Sexton's extensive background in mathematics can be seen in her references to the binary system (i.e., the way computers work with data using the only numbers "1" and "0"). In addition, she is fascinated by electromagnetism and the tension between unseen forces and their observed effects, which, she notes, "...speak, in some manner, to emotional and intellectual forces being created by the attraction of polar opposites and repulsion of the identical." Sexton's art is also complex aesthetically and her roots as a painter serve her well. In formal terms these works are impressively nuanced and have stunning visual impact.

The Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library is located at 4275 Cass St. For more information, contact the library at 858-581-9934 or visit the San Diego Public Library's web site at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future

The San Diego Public Library's Visual Arts Program is a nationally-recognized series of exhibitions, lectures, a television program, and other art-related activities. The mission of the program is to demonstrate the Library's role as a cultural institution embracing a broad range of disciplines, while assisting San Diego's mid-career and older professional artists in achieving wider local, regional and national attention. Visual Arts Program exhibitions are made possible, in part, by contributions from individuals, volunteer efforts, and the Friends of the Central Library. For more information about the Sexton exhibition, or tax-deductible contributions to the Visual Arts Program, please contact Library Curator Mark-Elliott Lugo at 619-238-6627.